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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: PATEL, Arvind D.

Application No.: Filed herewith

Filing Date: Herewith

For: IMPROVED OIL-BASED DRILLING FLUID

Prior Application No. 08/862,201

Prior Group Art Unit: 1712

Prior Examiner: Tucker, P.

Atty. Dkt. No.: MIDR:582--1/WHC

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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**Before** undertaking the examination of application, the above noted Applicant hereby requests the following:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) An invert emulsion fluid having utility for drilling, completing, or working over subterranean wells, said fluid comprising:

an oleaginous fluid; a)

b) a non-oleaginous fluid; and

an amine surfactant having the structure